

REMARKS

Claim 18 has been amended so that it is specifically directed to diamine compounds of formula I in which A¹ and A² each independently represent a photoreactive group which can be photoisomerized on exposure to UV or laser light.

Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claim 18

On page 2 of the Office Action, claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beilstein (1988-2001 Beilstein Institut) or Takao et al (US 6139927) as evidenced by Crabtree et al (US 4725342).

In response, Applicants submit that Crabtree does not teach or suggest diamines having a photoreactive group which can be photoisomerized.

Also, Applicants submit that there is no hint provided in Beilstein or Takao regarding diamines having a photoreactive group which can be photoisomerized.

Hence, Applicants submit that a skilled person would not be motivated to provide the diamines of the present invention using the above-cited references.

Therefore, Applicants submit that the present invention is not anticipated by (or obvious over) the cited art, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 3-17 are allowed. Also, the Examiner has objected to claims 19-41 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim,

but has indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 3-17 are allowed, and that claims 19-41 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicants submit that the base claim should no longer be rejected, and thus Applicants submit that the objection has been overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection and allowance of all the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce E. Kramer
Registration No. 33,725

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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